

**Buffy The Vampire Slayer**

**Season 8**

Episode 19

"Hide And Seek"

TEASER

FADE IN:

EXT. ALFRED P. VANCE HIGH SCHOOL - ESTABLISHING - NIGHT

A dark, quiet night. Nobody is around.

INT. ALFRED P. VANCE HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAY - NIGHT

BUFFY and GILES walk down the hallway, making their way down toward the gym. Buffy has a band-aid on her forehead. As they walk, they talk.

GILES

Are you sure we're supposed to be in here at night?

BUFFY

Yup. At first, the principle didn't like it so much and the girls got in a bunch of trouble, but I talked to her and made her believe it would help Jenna's emotional healing process.

(beat)

Which it has, right?

GILES

I suppose. I never really knew her before.

BUFFY

Oh. Well, she was all kinds of upset and stuff.

GILES

I imagine she would be after what happened to her.

(beat)

She seems okay now though.

BUFFY

Better, anyway. Still distant. I think she still kinda blames me for all of this.

GILES

Do you?

BUFFY

Who else is there to blame? It was my plan.

GILES

This isn't something you caused,  
Buffy. Jenna was made to be a Slayer,  
with or without your plan.

BUFFY

I guess.

As they round a corner, Buffy grabs her right shoulder and gives it a rub. Giles notices this.

GILES

Your shoulder still hurts?

BUFFY

Only a little. It'll be fine in a  
few days.

(beat)

It's weird. When we first moved here,  
it was like vampires didn't even  
exist anymore. Now, the town's full  
of them and everything else.

GILES

I think the power that's pulling  
them to this town is getting stronger  
as the Night of Morel Divineh nears.

BUFFY

Whatever the hell that means. Plus,  
there's the fact that Kennedy's  
dropped off the face of the earth  
for the last month and a half. That's  
just very unsettling.

GILES

We'll figure it out. We always do.

Buffy gives Giles a warm look. She's comforted by having him around.

BUFFY

Yeah.

They reach the gym.

BUFFY (CONT'D)

This is it.  
(looking at her watch)  
I guess we can go in now.

Giles opens the door and allows Buffy to walk in first.

INT. ALFRED P. VANCE HIGH SCHOOL - GYM - CONTINUOUS

Buffy walks into the gym and stops short, looking at something in the room. Giles follows her in, and also stops.

They're stunned.

ANGLE ON : DAWN AND JENNA

In the middle of the gym, both holding staffs, battling.

Dawn swings her staff at Jenna, but Jenna blocks the attack. She crouches down and swings her own staff, trying to sweep Dawn's feet out from under her. Dawn jumps over the staff easily.

Dawn swings downward at Jenna, but Jenna rolls out of the way. Dawn once again attempts to hit her, but Jenna avoids and jumps back to her feet.

ANGLE ON : BUFFY AND GILES

Watching this battle unfold.

GILES  
Impressive.

BUFFY  
Which one?

GILES  
(beat)  
Both.

ANGLE ON : DAWN AND JENNA

Jenna hits Dawn's staff out of her hands, and spins to swing at Dawn's head.

Dawn, now unarmed, ducks under Jenna's attack. Jenna quickly sweeps at Dawn's legs again, this time catching Dawn. Dawn falls to the floor. Jenna puts the staff to Dawn's chest.

JENNA  
My kill.

She steps back and helps Dawn up. Dawn brushes herself off as Buffy and Giles walk toward them.

BUFFY  
Not bad.

Dawn looks at Buffy and smiles.

DAWN  
Thanks.

Dawn sees Giles and waits for his comments. He gives her a proud look.

GILES

You've done a wonderful job.  
 (then, to Jenna)  
 Both of you.

JENNA

Thanks.

Jenna looks to Buffy, then to the floor. She's still uncomfortable around her. Buffy senses this.

BUFFY

I knew you had this in you.

JENNA

Yeah. Just kinda got put in me one day.

This time, Buffy looks down for a moment, feeling guilty. She tries to brighten up.

BUFFY

So, what else can you two do?

EXT. ALFRED P. VANCE HIGH SCHOOL - NIGHT

Buffy, Dawn, Giles and Jenna walk out of the school. Dawn locks up behind them. They start to walk away from the building.

GILES

You girls have done an astonishing job for such a short time.

DAWN

Jenna picked this stuff up fast.

JENNA

It's no big deal.

BUFFY

You should take credit where you can get it. These trainer types don't hand it out easily.

Jenna's not sure how to respond to that.

JENNA

I should really get home. I'll see you guys tomorrow, okay?

They all sense that this is weird for Jenna, but they don't want to give her a hard time about it.

DAWN

Okay. See ya.

GILES

Goodnight.

(to Dawn)

Have you ever thought of becoming a  
Watcher?

DAWN

I can do that?

GILES

Seeing as how there's only about  
fifty of us now, I don't see why  
not.

DAWN

Neat.

Jenna walks away from the group. Once she's gone, they start  
to walk in the opposite direction.

BUFFY

Did you guys see the progress with  
me and Jenna. She even talked to me  
and everything.

DAWN

I think she's starting to accept  
everything more.

ANGLE ON : JENNA

On the other side of the school lawn. Walking home alone.

As she passes the school sign, we see KENNEDY standing next  
to it.

KENNEDY

Mind if I walk with you?

Jenna stops and turns around. She's not thrilled.

FADE TO BLACK:

END OF TEASER

## ACT ONE

FADE IN:

EXT. ALFRED P. VANCE HIGH SCHOOL - NIGHT

Jenna turns and starts to walk away. Kennedy rushes to catch up.

KENNEDY  
Wow, you look pissed.

JENNA  
Just leave me alone, okay?

KENNEDY  
What's wrong?

Jenna stops walking and turns to Kennedy.

JENNA  
What's wrong?  
(beat)  
You came to me, promising to take this Slayer thing away if I helped you out, and then you just vanished.

KENNEDY  
There were things I had to take care of.

JENNA  
Whatever. Just leave me alone, okay?

Jenna starts to walk away. Kennedy follows.

KENNEDY  
Look, I'm sorry I had to leave, but I did it for the cause.

JENNA  
Right. "The Night of Morel Divineh."

KENNEDY  
It's only a few days away now, then this'll be over. I promise.

JENNA  
Fine. Let me know how that goes.

Kennedy stops talking and grabs Jenna's arm to stop her. She looks at Jenna, not sure how to say the next part.

KENNEDY  
I still need your help. Are you with me?

Jenna hesitates. She has to think about this for a second.

JENNA

What do you want me to do?

Kennedy smiles.

INT. BUFFY'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Giles is sitting at the kitchen table, going over an old book and taking notes. Buffy is standing behind him, reading over his shoulder. After a moment, this starts to annoy Giles. He finally turns to her.

GILES

Must you read over my shoulder like that?

BUFFY

Oh.

(backs off)

Sorry. I just wanted to see if you found anything.

GILES

I haven't. Of course, it would help a great deal if my books hadn't been lost in shipping.

BUFFY

Calm down. They said they'd deliver them today, right?

GILES

Yes, well... I just hope the Night of Morel Diveneh is kind enough to wait until they get here. I'd hate to figure it out, only to realize that the world's already ended.

BUFFY

Giles, breath. You're starting to talk like me.

Giles takes a second to gather himself.

GILES

I'll just make due with the few books that I have.

BUFFY

Need help?

Giles looks at her.

GILES

You should go spend time with your father before he leaves.

BUFFY

You sure?

Giles nods.

BUFFY (CONT'D)

Okay, but I'm just in the other room. Call me if you need me.

Buffy walks out of the room.

INT. BUFFY'S HOUSE - DINING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Buffy walks into the dining room, where Dawn and HANK are sitting at the table. A Scrabble board is set up in front of them, along with some snacks. Dawn is placing her pieces on the board.

DAWN

That's sixteen points, and a double word score. I believe that places me in the lead.

Buffy sits and looks at the board.

BUFFY

"Duodenum"? Is that a word?

HANK

Thank you! I asked the same thing.

DAWN

Yes, it's a word. Look it up if you don't believe me.

Hank looks to Buffy.

HANK

Think we should challenge her?

BUFFY

(thinks about it)

What's the point. The girl's a big ball of brain energy. She probably memorized the dictionary.

DAWN

I did not.

(beat)

Well, part of the "Q" section once, but only 'cause I was in the school office and really bored.

HANK

Fine, we'll allow it.

He writes the score down, then looks back to Buffy.

HANK (CONT'D)

Your turn.

Buffy looks at her letters, and then to the board. She thinks for a moment, and then places some pieces on the board, spelling out the word "Behead". She smiles and looks at Hank, who is a bit disturbed.

HANK (CONT'D)

Who are you girls and what have you done with my daughters?

BUFFY

What?

HANK

Look at the board. "Behead", "impale", "eviscerate"... It's like we're playing evil Scrabble.

Buffy and Dawn look at each other with big "oops" faces.

DAWN

We must have picked it up on TV.

BUFFY

Right. TV. Damn that violence and desensitizing. What is this world coming to?

Hank senses weirdness here, but moves on. He counts Buffy's score and writes it down. As Hank looks over his letters to see what he can write, Buffy's mind begins to wander. She looks back toward the kitchen.

HANK

Something wrong?

BUFFY

No. I just... I'll be right back.

INT. BUFFY'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Giles is still working. Buffy walks into the room and goes to him.

BUFFY

Are you sure you don't need help?

GILES

What?

BUFFY

I feel like I'm ditching school or something, but without the fun part.

GILES

I assure you, I can handle this. Go. Have fun.

BUFFY

You're sure?

GILES

I'm sure.

Buffy starts to walk into the other room, but stops and turns around.

BUFFY

So, you're sure?

INT. BUFFY'S HOUSE - DINING ROOM - DAY

Dawn and Hank are sitting, playing the game. Dawn is looking over her letters for another word to spell.

HANK

So, how are things with your boyfriend? Ryan, right?

Dawn hesitates.

DAWN

Yeah.

(beat)

Things are kinda... not. We broke up.

HANK

Oh, sorry. What happened?

DAWN

It's complicated. Y'know, something came up and no matter how hard I tried to deal with it, I just couldn't put it out of my head.

HANK

I know the feeling.

There's an awkward silence. Finally, Dawn puts a word down.

HANK (CONT'D)

I'm sure it'll get easier though.

DAWN

Yeah.

Just as Buffy walks back into the room, the DOORBELL RINGS.

BUFFY  
That would be Giles' package.

She heads for the front door.

BUFFY (CONT'D)  
Now he'll be able to breath again.

Once Buffy's out of the room, Dawn looks back to the Scrabble game.

DAWN  
This game would go a lot faster if  
Buffy sat down for, like, more than  
three seconds.

INT. BUFFY'S HOUSE - DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Buffy, WILLOW, XANDER, Dawn, Giles, and Jenna are sitting at the table. There's a shipping crate nearby, which has been opened and the table is full of old books. Everyone has their faces buried in one, though Dawn isn't actually paying attention to hers. Jenna's also distracted.

Jenna is watching the others as they go about their reading. She's got something on her mind, and she's not exactly sure how to go about it. Finally, she takes a deep breath and puts her book down.

JENNA  
I have to go to the bathroom.

She gets up and walks out of the room. As she's leaving, Xander shakes his head at his book.

XANDER  
Am I the only one who feels like  
they've stepped into the middle of a  
play without seeing the first act?

He looks up from his book.

XANDER (CONT'D)  
'Cause this stuff isn't making any  
kind of sense.

BUFFY  
I didn't wanna be the one to say  
something, but it does kinda make  
less sense than usual.

WILLOW  
That's because these are D'Orbrian  
texts.

(MORE)

WILLOW (CONT'D)

They're written differently than most books. Kinda like supernatural Pig Latin.

XANDER

Why? This Doh'Brien think he's better than us? Too good for the regular English?

Willow shrugs.

WILLOW

The trick is to read every second letter first, and then go back to the letter before it. Like a code.

XANDER

A big, stupid, elitist demonology code.

BUFFY

So... have we found anything yet? 'Cause I'm pretty sure I wouldn't even know it if I did find something.

WILLOW

I haven't found anything.  
(to Dawn)  
How 'bout you?

Dawn doesn't respond. Buffy can tell that something's wrong with her.

WILLOW (CONT'D)

Dawn?

Dawn looks up at Willow.

DAWN

Hmm?

GILES

(still reading)  
Here.

Everyone looks at Giles.

BUFFY

What?

WILLOW

Did you find something?

GILES

Something... Not a lot.  
(MORE)

GILES (CONT'D)

(then)

A vague reference to something called  
"Noctis De Morel Divineh".

XANDER

Hey, no fair. He got a book with  
real Latin.

(beat)

That was real Latin, right?

DAWN

More or less.

BUFFY

What's it say?

Giles reads a little.

GILES

It says that the Night of Morel  
Divineh is the feast of the lower  
being. It's the--um-- the opening of  
the warrior, twice restored.

BUFFY

Which means?

GILES

I don't know.

DAWN

"Warrior, twice restored..."

Dawn looks at Buffy.

DAWN (CONT'D)

That's you.

BUFFY

Me?

(beat)

I don't wanna be opened.

WILLOW

The feast part doesn't sound so fun  
either.

GILES

I don't think this is a literal text.  
Most of the entries are metaphorical.

BUFFY

So no opening? That's a plus.

XANDER

The thing I don't get is, how can we be in the dark about this, but every demon in the world seems to have gotten the memo?

There's a silence. Nobody really knows.

DAWN

Maybe it's not a memo. Maybe it's more of an MP3.

XANDER

Huh?

DAWN

Maybe the demons aren't reading about it, or learning about it. Maybe it's something that they just know.

GILES

Of course. We can't find any writings, because there are no writings. It's imprinted in the demon.

BUFFY

Great. We need something that every demon is clued into and for the first time ever, we don't have a demon around.

WILLOW

Maybe we could call someone. Angel?

Buffy's not comfortable with that idea.

BUFFY

There's a whole can of worms that I'm just not ready to pop open right now.

She gets an idea.

BUFFY (CONT'D)

No. If we wanna know what's going down here, we're gonna have to find out another way.

XANDER

How?

BUFFY

We're gonna find one of these demons, and we're gonna hurt it 'til it talks.

FADE TO BLACK:

END OF ACT ONE

## ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. BUFFY'S HOUSE - DINING ROOM - DAY

Buffy is sitting at the dining room table. Giles is standing over her, holding a large, leather bound book. He is dressed in a tweed suit, just as he used to wear. Buffy is listening to him as he speaks.

GILES

Long after the Shadow Men and the first Slayer, the battle between good and evil raged on. Though the Slayers had fought to keep the force of evil back, it continued to grow. The war would soon be lost if an answer could not be found. In this time, there was a group of women who attempted to harness the hidden powers of the world, in an attempt to assist the Slayer. When they saw that the war was being lost, they made the journey to find an answer to their troubles. They asked that more Slayers be called, but their request was denied for reasons that were not explained to the women.

Buffy seems disinterested. She stands up and begins to pace. Giles looks up at her with an annoyed expression, but he continues to read.

GILES (CONT'D)

Instead, they were instructed to forge a great weapon for the Slayer to carry into battle. Once finished with this weapon, the women would once again make their journey, and the weapon would be linked to the source of the Slayer, and allow her to channel more of this power, but only within the limitations of the weapon. So, the Slayer's Scythe was crafted.

Buffy is bored to tears with this whole thing. She decides to go for a walk. She heads for the front door. Giles follows her, still reading from the book.

EXT. WOODY ROAD - DAY

Buffy walks down the road, trying to keep her balance as she attempts to walk on the line that runs down the center of the road.

Giles walks behind her, still reading.

GILES

Over time, the Scythe was used by the Slayer to push back the forces of evil, however the women who had crafted it began to fear that the temptations of evil would soon corrupt the men who had taken it upon themselves to guide the Slayers. Through them, the Slayer could also be corrupted, and the power of the Scythe would fall into the clutches of evil.

EXT. BEAR RIVER - DAY

Dark clouds form overhead. It looks like it is about to storm at any moment.

Buffy walks into town. It's completely empty, and looks different than we've seen it before. The stores are different. Some empty, but some with new, brightly painted signs. Buffy's confused by this.

She looks over to a nearby wall, which is covered in posters and flyers, all with the word "Alone" printed on them in big bold letters. Buffy is disturbed by the sight of these, and tries to keep her eyes off of the wall.

BUFFY

Where am I?

REVEAL THE FIRST (in Buffy form), standing next to Buffy, wearing all black. She looks around and smiles.

FIRST/BUFFY

You don't recognize the place?  
(looks at Buffy)  
We're in the town that you built.

BUFFY

I built?  
(then)  
I'm really not handy with hammers and nails. There's been issues with holes in walls.

Through all of this, Giles (though muffled into almost inaudible background noise) continues to read.

GILES

These fears caused the women to take the great weapon and hide it. They crossed oceans to hide it.

(MORE)

GILES (CONT'D)

To ensure that the Watchers of the Slayers could never find it. There it remained for centuries, despite the attempts of good and evil to find it.

The First gestures for Buffy too look around.

FIRST/BUFFY

Well, I sure didn't make it. As much as I'd like to take credit, this one's all on you.

Confused, Buffy looks around the stores. There's a computer store, an art gallery, one with a sign that says "Eastland Academy For Girls" on it, another with a sign that says "The Magic Box" on it. There's a Jamaican food restaurant, a railroad supply company, and a cheerleader supply shop.

One of the empty shops has a "Coming Soon" sign in front of it.

Again, Buffy's eyes are drawn to the wall with all of the posters and flyers. Again, she doesn't want to see them, so she looks away.

BUFFY

I don't understand. I didn't build this.

FIRST/BUFFY

You did, and you are. Progress is being made. The town is booming. New stores opening every day.

Buffy looks to the First, growing angry.

BUFFY

You think I don't know what this is? What you are? This is my head you're in. You don't have power here.

FIRST/BUFFY

Believe that if you want. Bottom line is, at the end of the day, you're losing this battle. Nothing's changed that.

GILES

(in the background)

As the dawn of the new millennium fell upon the world, the rise of evil was once again reaching dangerous levels.

(MORE)

## GILES (CONT'D)

Evil had managed to discover the location of the Scythe, but was unable to harness it's power. It devised a plan. One that would allow evil to take over the world, and finally destroy the Slayer line. While attempting to stop the evil, the Slayer would be led to the Scythe. Once she held this power, she would be manipulated into using it's energy to channel the source of the Slayer line, and eventually drain this source of it's power, leaving the world open for evil to make it's home.

## BUFFY

(not hearing Giles)

There are Slayers all over this world. You lost.

## FIRST/BUFFY

Did I? I think that, even with all of these Slayers, you're still alone. You've always been alone. You'll always be alone. That's what made this so damned easy. You'll f--fall...

The First is starting to find it hard to speak. A pain fills it's stomach. Buffy watches, confused.

The wind starts to pick up. LIGHTNING FLASHES.

## FIRST/BUFFY (CONT'D)

No! You don't win this. This is m--mine.

The First raises it's palm, and a LIGHT FORMS THERE. As Buffy watches, the light engulfs the First. When the light dies, Buffy is still face to face with herself, however the BLACK CLOTHES HAVE TURNED WHITE.

## BUFFY

Who are you?

This other Buffy smiles. As this happens, the wind grows stronger.

Buffy looks over to the wall with all of the posters and flyers. The papers are starting to blow off of the wall, toward Buffy.

She looks down and sees one of the flyers at her feet with the word "Alone" on it. When she looks up again, she sees that a piece of the wall has cleared of papers.

ANGLE ON : THE WALL

We can see graffiti under the papers now. We can just make out the word "Alone" spraypainted to the wall.

Buffy turns away from this, not wanting to see it. She looks back to this other Buffy that stands in front of her, still smiling.

WHITE BUFFY  
Beljoxa's Eye.

A flyer blows off of the wall, and into Buffy's face. She turns to avoid it, and swats it out of her way.

When she finally looks back to where the other Buffy was, the other Buffy is gone.

Confused, Buffy looks back to the wall.

ANGLE ON : THE SKY

The clouds start to break. A small glimmer of sunlight shines through.

ANGLE ON : BUFFY

Staring at the wall. This time, she's not going to look away.

ANGLE ON : THE WALL

More papers have blown off of the wall, revealing more of what was behind them. We can now make out more of the graffiti. It's full message now reads : "YOU WERE NEVER ALONE"

GILES  
The Slayer fell for the trap of the evil, and used the power of a friend to halt the spell of the Shadow Men, and to activate all of those who held the potential to become the Slayer. This act gave the First the chance to finally put an end to the Slayer line, long enough to take over the world.

Buffy still doesn't hear this. She's too busy looking at the wall, trying to figure out it's meaning.

HARD CUT TO:

INT. BUFFY'S HOUSE - DINING ROOM - MORNING

Buffy suddenly wakes up. She sits up in her chair, having fallen asleep on a stack of books.

Giles and Willow are sitting near her. Giles is eating a muffin. When Buffy wakes up, they look over at her.

WILLOW  
Enjoy the nap?

BUFFY  
Not really.  
(to Giles)  
What's Beljoxa's Eye got to do with any of this?

Giles looks at Buffy, confused.

GILES  
(mid-muffin bite)  
I'm sorry?

BUFFY  
I had a Slayer dream. It was... Well, it was weird. Someone mentioned Beljoxa's Eye.

Giles puts the muffin down.

GILES  
I don't know what that could mean.

WILLOW  
Maybe we're supposed to see Beljoxa's Eye?

GILES  
That wouldn't be possible, even if it were the case. We'd need a demon to open the portal for us.

WILLOW  
Oh.

They think for a moment.

BUFFY  
Giles, what did the eye say when you saw it before?

GILES  
Nothing helpful. Only that the Slayer line had somehow been destabilized because of the Slayer, and that the First was taking this opportunity to enact a plan that would cease the Slayer line... Which all sounds rather important now that I think of it.

WILLOW  
Destabilized? How?

BUFFY

By being here. I was supposed to be dead, but I'm not.

(rolls her eyes)

And I just so happened to activate every Slayer on the planet.

WILLOW

We. Big boldy highlight on that word. You didn't do this alone.

BUFFY

But it was done. Whatever this Morel Divineh thing is, I'm somehow responsible.

WILLOW

Nothing like a bunch of guilt to add to the pressure. So, what do we do?

BUFFY

We stick to the plan. Tonight, we hunt. We find a demon and we make it tell us everything.

Just as Buffy says that, Xander rushes into the room. He's not happy.

XANDER

So, who's up for a little bad news?

BUFFY

What now?

XANDER

The Scythe. It's kinda... gone.

INT. BUFFY'S HOUSE - WEAPON ROOM - DAY

Buffy, Willow, Xander and Giles stand in the doorway, looking at the empty Scythe stand.

XANDER

I noticed the door was open a little, so I came to check it out.

WILLOW

Who could do this? I mean, we know it's not vampire, right?

GILES

Whoever did this would appear to have a vital piece of the puzzle. We must find it.

WILLOW

Which again brings up the question of who did this. Who could have gotten in here without us knowing?

Buffy continues to look at the empty stand with a straight face. After a beat, she turns away from it.

BUFFY

This changes nothing. We do what we planned, as we planned it.

XANDER

What about the Scythe?

BUFFY

We'll deal with that. The way I see it, we have three goals now. Find out what this Morel Divineh thing is all about, find the Scythe, and make sure we get our hands on the amulet before anyone else can.

WILLOW

Me and Xander can get to work on finding the amulet. I might be able to find some records in Town Hall that could tell us where this artist woman lived.

BUFFY

Do it.

INT. TOWN HALL - RECORDS OFFICE - DAY

Willow and Xander walk into the office. Willow heads for her computer, while Xander goes to some of the boxes, not knowing where to start.

WILLOW

I might have something in the database. It'll only take me a few minutes to look.

XANDER

And I guess I'll try to track down a box marked "really old stuff".

WILLOW

Most of the older records are toward the back of the room. There's some water damage, but they're readable.

Xander nods and walks to the back of the room. Willow starts her search on the computer.

As Xander looks for a box to pull out, his mind begins to wander. He pauses.

XANDER

So, are we just gonna avoid the fact that this is pretty much our fault?

WILLOW

(beat)

Do we really know what's happening?

XANDER

No, but we know that it has something to do with the Slayer line being weakened because of Buffy's being alive. You and me are the only two left who can take responsibility for that.

Willow looks over to him.

WILLOW

How?

XANDER

I don't know.

Xander's not really sure how to process the thoughts he's having. Willow sees the pain in his face, and tries to comfort him despite her own feelings.

WILLOW

All we can do about this is try to stop it. If we keep going back and replaying everything and getting all caught up in the guilty badness over something we can't change, then we're just gonna make it worse.

XANDER

(beat)

I guess.

Willow turns back to her computer.

WILLOW

Let's just do this. We can wallow later.

Xander gets back to work.

EXT. BEAR RIVER - ESTABLISHING - DAY

A normal day in the small town. Sunny, and bright. People going about their normal lives.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. BEAR RIVER - ESTABLISHING - NIGHT

Same town, hours later. Most of the people have gone home by this point, but there are still a few of them walking around.

EXT. WOODS - NIGHT

Buffy and Dawn walk through the woods. Dawn is carrying a flashlight in her hand and a bag on her shoulder. She's looking for some signs of a demon, but has her mind on something else.

BUFFY

This patrolling thing was much easier in Sunnydale. Look in a graveyard, and then if you don't find anything, maybe check out a cemetery. How are we supposed to find anything in a town that doesn't have any regular demon haunts.

(beat, thinking)

"Demon haunts." I guess demons would have haunts. Especially the ghosty ones. Not that ghosts are demons, but I mean there are ghost-like demons, right?

Buffy looks to Dawn.

BUFFY (CONT'D)

Dawn?

Dawn looks up at her finally.

DAWN

Hmm? Sorry, I was thinking of something else.

BUFFY

That's been happening a lot lately. Would this something else happen to involve a cute ex-football player that you broke up with a few weeks ago?

Dawn doesn't answer.

BUFFY (CONT'D)

What happened?

Dawn hesitates, but finally decides to talk about it.

DAWN

Things got complicated. I found something out about him, and... It was complicated.

(MORE)

DAWN (CONT'D)

I mean, I tried to deal with it for a while, but every time I looked at him, I just kept thinking...

BUFFY

Was he a demon?

DAWN

No.

BUFFY

Then what was the big?

DAWN

(beat)

Ryan had cancer.

Dawn looks down. Buffy's confused.

BUFFY

"Had"? So, he's okay now?

DAWN

Yeah.

BUFFY

So? What am I missing here? If he's better, then why are you so thrown?

Dawn stops walking.

DAWN

Because that's what they said about Mom. She was better too, remember? She was fine, and normal, and happy, and then she was gone. Every time I look at Ryan now, I just keep asking myself if the same thing's gonna happen to him. In my head, I know it's stupid, but I can't help it.

Buffy puts a hand on Dawn's arm, to comfort her.

BUFFY

Dawn, Mom didn't die because of her tumor. She died because of some post-surgical complication. That's not going to happen to Ryan.

DAWN

I know that. I understand that on an intellectual level, but something in my stomach just tightens up whenever I think about it. I can't help it.

BUFFY

Listen--

Before Buffy can continue, Giles walks up to them. Buffy sees him, then looks to Dawn.

BUFFY (CONT'D)

We'll talk later.

GILES

I've circled around the area, but I can't find anything. Perhaps it would be best if we just returned to town and hoped for a vampire to attack there.

BUFFY

(sarcastic)

Here's hoping.

GILES

You know what I meant.

BUFFY

Yeah. I guess it's as good a plan as any.

(beat)

Listen, I'm gonna go around the long way. I'll meet you guys there, okay?

GILES

We could go with--

BUFFY

I'm good.

(to Dawn)

You okay?

Dawn nods.

BUFFY (CONT'D)

Then I'll see you guys in a little while.

Buffy takes off in one direction. Dawn and Giles start to walk in another.

EXT. TOWN HALL - NIGHT

Willow and Xander walk out of the building. Xander is stretching, and rubbing his eyes.

XANDER

Well, that was a big pile of steaming pointlessness.

WILLOW

Not totally, I mean, we did find some information.

XANDER

Yeah, but nothing that we didn't get from Mrs. Gimly and her walking, talking, talking, talking tours.

They stop walking.

WILLOW

We can figure this out. We just have to think.

(beat)

What do we know about the Artist?

XANDER

Well, Buffy said that she kept to herself. People didn't even know her real name... Which would have been handy to think of before we tried to find her house.

WILLOW

What else?

XANDER

We know that she built really resilient, yet completely ineffective lightning rods.

(beat)

Other than that, I'm a blank.

They both think for a moment, and then their eyes light up. They look at each other, thinking the same thing.

XANDER (CONT'D)

You don't think...?

WILLOW

Where better to hide the amulet than on top of town hall?

XANDER

Let's go.

They rush back into the building.

EXT. TOWN HALL - ROOF - NIGHT

Xander climbs onto the roof, and then helps Willow onto it.

XANDER

Careful, it's on an angle.

WILLOW

I got it.

They look up and see the beautifully crafted lightning rod.

XANDER

There it is.

They carefully make their way over to it. They look it up and down.

XANDER (CONT'D)

What does the amulet look like? 'Cause I don't see anything that looks too much like an amulet.

He continues to look, not seeing anything. Willow, on the other hand, does. She bends down and looks at a piece of the rod, which has a sphere-shaped slightly purple hued crystal set into it. She studies it.

XANDER (CONT'D)

What?

WILLOW

This is a Dolls-Eye crystal.

XANDER

A Dolls-Eye crystal? Here? That's just... What's a Dolls-Eye crystal?

WILLOW

It's mystical, and very rare is what it is. Also, really powerful, which explains a lot about this town.

Willow's thinking more about this than she's saying, but Xander doesn't notice.

WILLOW (CONT'D)

They act as a means of channeling energies from other plains. They're supposed to actually exist in different worlds at the same time.

(thinks)

They can also be the byproduct of a Moorian Delitescio spell.

XANDER

Which is?

WILLOW

Think, safety deposit box, but for beings with unheard of amounts of power.

(MORE)

WILLOW (CONT'D)

I mean, a normal witch can use the crystal for spells and stuff, but with this type of spell... Even I've never seen that kind of power.

XANDER

So, can the box be opened?

WILLOW

If you have the right key.

XANDER

Key? Like, Dawn Key?

WILLOW

No.

Willow straightens up, and turns away from the lightning rod. She reaches into her shirt, and pulls out the intertwined heart necklace. She unclasps it, and holds it in her hand.

Xander's confused.

XANDER

The necklace that Tara gave you?

(beat)

I'm officially confused. What's going on here?

Willow doesn't reply. She bends down and puts the necklace on the rooftop. Slowly, she straightens back up. She stands for a moment, not saying anything.

XANDER (CONT'D)

Will?

Suddenly, Willow stomps on the necklace as hard as she can with the heel of her shoe, smashing it.

ANGLE ON : THE NECKLACE

Willow picks up her foot. We can see the two heart pieces, broken apart now. The small crystal that once dangled between them is not connected to either. THE CRYSTAL BEGINS TO GLOW. After a moment, IT GROWS into the Dolls-Eye crystal that Tara gave to Willow in "The I In Team".

Willow bends down and picks it up. Xander's more confused than ever.

WILLOW

(eyeing the crystal  
in her hand)

Tara didn't give me the necklace.

She shows him the crystal.

WILLOW (CONT'D)

She gave me this.

XANDER

And that's the key to this lock box?

Willow nods.

WILLOW

It has to be.

She turns back to the lightning rod and bends town, to get closer to it's crystal.

XANDER

Umm, Will? If the amulet's all locked up, should we really be unlocking it?

Willow pauses. There's a peaceful look on her face.

WILLOW

I think I have this for a reason. I don't know what got this to me, or why Tara's grandmother had it, but I think I'm supposed to use it.

XANDER

(beat)

I don't know about this.

WILLOW

Trust me.

Willow reaches out with her crystal, and touches it to the crystal on the lightning rod. As they touch, THEY BEGIN TO GLOW. After a second, WILLOW'S CRYSTAL MELTS INTO THE OTHER CRYSTAL.

Willow steps back and watches as THE OTHER CRYSTAL ALSO MELTS.

The crystal TURNS INTO A METALLIC GOO, and drips down, onto the rooftop. The GOO EVENTUALLY FORMS THE AMULET OF MOREL DIVINEH, and solidifies. THUNDER ROARS as A SURGE OF ENERGY shoots from the rod, expanding over the town.

EXT. WOODED STREET - NIGHT

Dawn and Giles walk down the road. They're still keeping an eye out for demons.

There's a BEEPING SOUND. They look at each other, confused.

DAWN

What was that?

GILES

I'm not sure.

There's ANOTHER BEEPING SOUND. Giles suddenly realizes what it is. He reaches into his pocket and pulls out his cell phone. He looks at it.

GILES (CONT'D)

Look at that. I have a signal.

Dawn looks at him, wondering how that happened.

EXT. TOWN HALL - ROOF - NIGHT

Willow smiles, and picks up the amulet.

WILLOW

We have the amulet.

FADE TO BLACK:

END OF ACT TWO

## ACT THREE

FADE IN:

INT. ALFRED P. VANCE HIGH SCHOOL - GYM - NIGHT

The gym is dark. The only light in the room shines down from the ceiling, into the center of the room. It shines on a white punching bag, which Jenna is hitting as hard as she can.

DAWN (O.S.)

In the time of the Shadow Men,  
humanity was new to this world. The  
demons that once ruled over it were  
now gone, but their seed remained,  
and the roots of evil began to grow.  
As this force grew, it began to  
swallow the hopes of those humans  
who tried to stop it.

ANGLE ON : DAWN

She steps into the outer edge of the light. She's still just a vague form, hidden by shadows, but we can see that she is reading from a very old, leather-bound book. The same one that Giles had in Buffy's dream.

Jenna doesn't stop hitting the bag.

DAWN (CONT'D)

As the humans fought this, they became  
divided. Some were tempted by the  
evil, through it's lies and deception.  
Among those tempted was the one girl  
in all the world who had in her the  
potential to battle this spreading  
menace, and keep it from taking over.  
Before this could happen, the girl  
would need to be infused with the  
strength and ability to do so.

As Dawn reads, Kennedy steps out of the shadows. She begins to circle the punching bag.

KENNEDY

We both know you're not the girl,  
Jenna. You shouldn't even be here.

Jenna punches the bag once again. This time, she notices that there is a large red spot on the bag. Blood. She stops punching and looks at her fists. They're bleeding.

KENNEDY (CONT'D)

What'd I tell you?

INT. ALFRED P. VANCE HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAY - NIGHT

Jenna now finds herself in the hallway, which is also dark. There's a BLUE GLOW lighting the hall, which allows us to see. She begins to walk slowly.

DAWN (V.O.)

Three men from her village, who had once been great warriors set out on a journey to find a way to battle this force. These men were told of the girl, and the power they would need to awaken her potential. They were told that the source of this evil had once been a piece of the light which created the world and all of those who dwell on it.

Jenna stops walking. She sees something.

REVERSE ANGLE

At the end of the hall, there is a figure. It is familiar to us, but very out of place in this school. It is THE ARTIST (from "Legacy"), still hidden behind a hood. She turns a corner. Jenna rushes after her.

DAWN (V.O.) (CONT'D)

It was explained that this part of the light had cast aside it's heart in it's desire to rule over the world. Thus, the first evil was born. The heart of this evil, which had been cast aside, was left unused though it was the source of a great power.

EXT. BUFFY'S BACKYARD - NIGHT

Jenna is standing in the middle of the backyard, which is without any of the mystical herbs that we usually see here.

The Artist is moving around the yard, reaching into a small pouch and pulling seeds from it. She spreads those seeds around. Jenna watches her, confused.

JENNA

What are you doing?

The Artist looks back at her, even though we can't see her face. She drops the pouch and starts to run away, scared.

JENNA (CONT'D)

Wait. What is this?

Jenna chases after the Artist.

EXT. OLD BEAR RIVER - NIGHT

The Artist runs through the town (the incomplete version that we saw in "Legacy, Part 2"). She stops and looks back.

Jenna is coming after her.

JENNA

Wait!

The Artist looks around for someplace to hide. Jenna stops running, keeping space between her and the Artist.

JENNA (CONT'D)

I'm not here to hurt you.

Dawn walks up behind Jenna, still reading from the book. Jenna looks back at Dawn, and then to the Artist who isn't moving. Jenna's confused by all of this.

DAWN

The men were told that the power of the heart could be used to balance the forces in the world, but that only those with the ability to harness that power could be chosen to carry it within them, for it would surely devour all others who attempted to hold it. The men were given a box, which contained a fragment of this heart. A fragment which would be divided through the generations between those chosen to wield it's power.

The Artist looks to the Town Hall, which is still not complete. She starts to walk toward it.

Jenna watches her go, and follows.

EXT. TOWN HALL - ROOF - NIGHT

The Artist removes the Amulet Of Morel Divineh from her pocket and walks to the lightning rod. She looks back to make sure nobody is watching. Jenna is there watching this, but the Artist pays her no attention.

The Artist holds the amulet up to the beautifully crafted iron rod, and bows her head. Soon, the AMULET MELTS INTO THE ROD.

The ROD BEGINS TO GLOW, as the melted amulet drips down it. The amulet goo makes it's way down to the open circular section of the rod, and fills it. THE CRYSTAL ORB FORMS, filling the circle.

Once that is formed, MORE GOO DRIPS DOWN to the rooftop, and THE DOLLS-EYE CRYSTAL FORMS on the roof.

The Artist bends down and picks it up. She looks closely at it for a moment before turning around. She removes her hood, revealing her face. It is a familiar face, because it is the face of Amber Benson.

Carrying the crystal, she begins to walk away. She looks down at the crystal with a slightly pained expression. A tear forms in her eye.

WIDE ANGLE

We now see that the Artist is walking across the air, not even touching the roof. She walks away from the rooftop, through the air. As she walks away, a SURGE OF ENERGY shoots from the lightning rod, across the entire town.

ANGLE ON : JENNA

Watching this with wide eyes.

DAWN (V.O.)

The three men returned to their village with the box, and attempted to convince the girl of her destiny. Still, the force of evil tempted her. Being the only human alive able to carry the heart within her, the Shadow Men were forced to grant her this power, hoping that she would eventually accept her role in the battle against evil.

Dawn closes the book and looks at Jenna.

DAWN (CONT'D)

Time to wake up.

INT. JENNA'S HOUSE - JENNA'S ROOM - NIGHT

Jenna is asleep in her bed, still in her street clothes. She suddenly wakes up. She doesn't know what to make of this dream.

She slowly sits up, putting a hand on her head, wishing this were all finally over. As she does this, we REVEAL BUFFY, standing at the foot of her bed with her arms crossed.

Jenna gasps when she first sees Buffy, but then realizes who it is.

JENNA

Buffy? What are you doing here?

BUFFY

Where is it?

JENNA

Where's what?

BUFFY

You know what I'm talking about, so don't try telling me that you didn't take the Scythe.

JENNA

The Scy--? I don't have the Scythe.

BUFFY

I figured that much. Probably gave it to Kennedy, right? I'm not stupid, so don't pretend that I am. Kennedy doesn't know about the weapon room, and nobody else that does would take the Scythe.

Jenna looks down. Guilty as charged. Buffy isn't interested in her guilt. She stands with a firm expression. Finally, Jenna speaks softly.

JENNA

I just want this to be over. I want it to go away.

Buffy doesn't respond.

JENNA (CONT'D)

She told me that she could do that, so I helped her. What's so wrong with that?

BUFFY

Where is she?

JENNA

Back at her cabin. The abandoned one at the end of Fuller.

Buffy starts to walk out of the room. She opens the door and steps into the hallway. Before she's gone, she stops and turns around.

BUFFY

Jenna...

Jenna looks up at her.

BUFFY (CONT'D)

We'll talk.

After saying that, Buffy leaves. Jenna is left alone, feeling more guilt over being caught than she does for taking the Scythe. None of this makes sense to her.

EXT. TOWN HALL - NIGHT

Willow and Xander walk out of the building. Willow is still holding the amulet. Xander follows her nervously.

XANDER

I'm extremely not comfortable with this situation.

WILLOW

Relax. Nobody knows we have it.

XANDER

Right. Nobody knows that we have the amulet that demons have mysteriously been drawn to for the last century.

(beat)

Maybe we should have waited for Buffy.

Willow stops and turns around to talk to Xander.

WILLOW

Look, I'm not sure how, or why, but we were supposed to find this. Something or someone made sure that it ended up in Tara's hands, and then got to me. This can't just be a coincidence.

XANDER

And as comforting as that is, I still say that some Slayer backup would be nice right about now.

WILLOW

Don't worry. We'll go find Buffy.

XANDER

In the next three seconds, I hope.

WILLOW

What?

Xander motions for Willow to look behind her. As Willow turns, we REVEAL THREE VAMPIRES AND TWO DEMONS walking toward them from different directions.

Two of the vampires are SANDERS and RIP, still grungy as we saw them last time.

The other vampire is a female vampire, wearing lots of leather.

The two demons are not of the same species, and they are coming from opposite sides of the street.

Willow's face drops.

WILLOW (CONT'D)

Well, that's not very good, is it?

XANDER

We should probably- y'know- run, or something.

WILLOW

I can get behind that plan.

They take off running. The vampires and the demons pursue them.

EXT. BEAR RIVER - MAIN STREET - NIGHT

Willow and Xander make their way to Main Street, and stop to look behind them.

XANDER

Did we lose them?

WILLOW

I'm thinking, no. They're gonna be drawn to the amulet, remember?

(beat)

I'm starting to think that unlocking it might have been a bad idea.

XANDER

Y'think?

WILLOW

The house. Vampires can't come in there.

They start to run again, but just as they do, they see TWO MORE VAMPIRES coming from the direction they're headed in.

They turn around and see the other three vampires and two demons catching up.

WILLOW (CONT'D)

Which way do we go?

XANDER

I pick the two vampires. Two's better than five, right?

Willow nods and they charge toward the two vampires. When they reach them, Xander slams into one of them, taking him to the ground. The other vampire grabs Willow and starts to struggle with her, trying to get it's hands on the amulet.

Xander beats on the vampire that he's on top of until that vampire finally pushes him off, sending Xander flying backwards, crashing to the ground.

That vampire gets to his feet and goes after Willow too.

WILLOW

Xander! Help!

Xander struggles to get to his feet to help Willow.

ANGLE ON : WILLOW

Being attacked by the vampires. She knees one of them in the groin, but that only stops him for a moment. She can't keep fighting them off for very much longer.

Suddenly, ONE OF THE VAMPIRES POOFS. The other is pulled off and thrown to the ground.

REVEAL Dawn and Giles standing near Willow. Dawn has a stake in her hand and has a bag over her shoulder, and Giles attacks the vampire that he just threw to the ground.

Xander gets up and looks back.

XANDER

We have to get out of here.

DAWN

What's going on?

WILLOW

We found the amulet. The demons can sense it now.

GILES

(still fighting)

Dawn! Stake!

Dawn makes an "oops" face, and then turns and tosses her stake to Giles. Giles catches it and stakes the vampire he's fighting with. It POOFS.

Giles joins the other, looking back.

GILES (CONT'D)

We need to capture one of them.

XANDER

Now?

GILES

Could you suggest a better time?

Dawn pulls some weapons out of the bag. She hands Willow a crossbow, and Xander a dagger.

She pulls out another stake for herself. She takes a deep breath.

DAWN

Let's do this.

All at once, they charge toward the attacking demons.

FADE TO BLACK:

END OF ACT THREE

## ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

INT. FANCY TRAINING ROOM - DAY

The room is filled with light as the sun comes through the giant windows on the back wall. There is a blurred haze in the room, giving it a very surreal feeling.

The floors are hard wood. The walls are painted nicely, and trimmed with all kinds of fancy woodwork. The room has everything that a Slayer... or Potential Slayer could possibly need.

Kennedy stands in the middle of the room as though she is standing at attention while an older man, MR. HINKLEY (dressed in a suit, very stuffy English type), stands in front of her, eyeing her.

MR. HINKLEY

You're coming along nicely, Kennedy.

KENNEDY

Thank you, sir.

MR. HINKLEY

Have you been practicing your flips?

KENNEDY

Yes, sir.

MR. HINKLEY

Good. Show me.

Mr. Hinkley backs away. Kennedy readies herself to do a bunch of impressive flips. As she prepares, she looks up and sees ETHAN standing in the doorway, holding the now-familiar leather book. He reads from it.

ETHAN

The Night Of Morel Divineh occurs on the Relhoian leap-year after the second restoration of the Chosen One.

Ethan keeps talking, but WE CANNOT HEAR WHAT HE SAYS.

MR. HINKLEY

Why are you waiting, Kennedy?

Kennedy looks away from Ethan, a little confused as to why she can't hear him anymore, and looks to Mr. Hinkley.

KENNEDY

I'm sorry.

MR. HINKLEY

Don't be sorry, be prepared.

Kennedy nods and begins to ready herself again. She takes a few steps and then attempts to flip. When she does, she stumbles and falls. She remains on the ground, upset by this.

MR. HINKLEY (CONT'D)

Entirely inadequate.

KENNEDY

I'm sorry. It won't happen again. I don't know what happened.

MR. HINKLEY

I do.

(beat)

You're too old. You'll never be a Slayer. You're useless to the world.

KENNEDY

That's not true. I can do it.

MR. HINKLEY

How do you expect to be a Slayer if you can't flip?

KENNEDY

But I can do it. Just let me try again.

MR. HINKLEY

It's too late.

WE HEAR ETHAN AGAIN.

ETHAN

On this day, the power of the Slayer will be opened to the one who holds the pieces, and shall be removed from the Slayer, and whoever shall perform this spell shall be filled with this power.

Once again, Ethan continues to speak, but WE CANNOT HEAR HIM.

Kennedy looks to him, and then back to Mr. Hinkley.

KENNEDY

See? There's a chance.

MR. HINKLEY

You've worked your entire life for this. Ever since you were a child, you've trained to be a Slayer. *The* Slayer.

Mr. Hinkley softens a little.

MR. HINKLEY (CONT'D)  
 You're better than this, my girl.  
 You deserve more than this. You  
 deserve your destiny.

He walks to her and helps her up. As he does, we can see a strand of gray hair on Kennedy's head.

MR. HINKLEY (CONT'D)  
 Which is why it pains me to say this.  
 (beat)  
 You're simply too old. I've never  
 heard of a girl your age being chosen.

Kennedy starts to cry.

KENNEDY  
 You're wrong. I can do this.

MR. HINKLEY  
 I know you're capable. I've seen you  
 in training. You deserve this.

Ethan is ONCE AGAIN HEARD.

ETHAN  
 And this power shall fill the new  
 vessel, and they shall be mighty to  
 the day of their death.

His VOICE FADES AGAIN.

KENNEDY  
 Then tell me what to do. Tell me how  
 I can change this.

Mr. Hinkley thinks for a moment. Finally, he looks at her.

MR. HINKLEY  
 Go. Change your clothes for dinner.  
 We'll talk then.

Kennedy hesitates, wanting to know more now, but she finally nods and turns to walk out of the room. As she leaves, Mr. Hinkley smiles.

HIS SMILE GROWS to an unnaturally large grin as he watches her leave.

ETHAN  
 So it shall be.

INT. ABANDONED HOUSE - NIGHT

Kennedy is asleep on the floor when she suddenly wakes up. This isn't the first time she's had this dream, so she's used to it.

She sits up.

BUFFY (O.S.)

Damn. I just keep waking people up tonight.

REVEAL BUFFY, standing at Kennedy's feet. She's pissed.

Kennedy leaps to her feet, preparing for whatever is to follow.

KENNEDY

What are you doing here?

BUFFY

I come for what's mine.

KENNEDY

The Scythe.

BUFFY

Give it to me and I'll consider not killing you.

KENNEDY

You don't know what you're doing.

BUFFY

Do you? What is the Night of Morel Divineh?

KENNEDY

(smiles)

It's the answer to a lot of prayers.

BUFFY

And let me guess... You come out on top?

KENNEDY

If that's the way it is, what's so wrong with that?

BUFFY

You're playing a game you don't understand. Give me the Scythe.

KENNEDY

Too late. The Scythe's not here. See? I'm not so dumb after all.

BUFFY

Smart would be telling me where it is.

Kennedy smiles.

KENNEDY

You're not the only Slayer, Buffy. Your threats mean squat to me. I'm just as strong as you, and I've been training a lot longer.

BUFFY

We'll see.

Buffy takes a step toward Kennedy.

BUFFY (CONT'D)

You will tell me where the Scythe is.

KENNEDY

Or what? You'll hurt me?

BUFFY

You're not the first Slayer to go mental on my watch. If I have to, I will finish this.

KENNEDY

Well then...

Kennedy punches Buffy hard, leaving a large scratch on Buffy's face.

KENNEDY (CONT'D)

You have to.

Buffy quickly recovers, and feels her scratch. She looks at Kennedy's hand.

BUFFY

You had to be wearing a ring?

EXT. BEAR RIVER - MAIN STREET - NIGHT

Willow, Xander and Giles are fighting with the two demons while Dawn is taking on the female vampire by herself. She's a little nervous about it, but she seems to be handling herself well.

ANGLE ON : SANDERS AND RIP

Standing back, watching the fight. Not unlike what they did during the fight with Isabelle in the past.

SANDERS

Just stay back and wait for the right moment.

RIP

When will that be?

SANDERS

If I knew an exact time, don't you think I'd tell you? We just have to wait for our chance to get to the girl.

Sanders eyes Willow. He can feel the amulet that she has on her, and he wants it. He bides his time.

Meanwhile, Rip is just itching to get into the fight. He's keeping his eye on Xander.

RIP

Now?

SANDERS

No.

There's a beat of silence.

RIP

Now?

Sanders rolls his eyes.

SANDERS

Please shut up now. I'm trying to focus.

ANGLE ON : THE FIGHT

Giles is picked up by one of the demons, and pinned against the wall of a building. He tries punching the demon, but it does little good. The demon grabs his neck.

GILES

(garbled)

Surm hlp!

The others don't have the time or ability to help. They're busy with their own fights.

Willow is being attacked by the second demon. She is struggling to get free from it, but not having much luck. The demon is also fighting Xander with it's free hand. Xander is trying to protect Willow, but the demon isn't very interested in him. It just wants the amulet.

ANGLE ON : DAWN

Battling the female vampire. The vampire lunges at her, but Dawn rolls out of the way. She quickly gets back to her feet and attempts to kick the vampire. The vampire grabs her foot, and holds onto it for a moment. Dawn's face fills with regret.

DAWN

Okay, kicking was a bad idea.

The vampire twists Dawn's foot, sending Dawn to the ground. The vampire climbs on top of her, preparing to bite.

As the vampire bends to plant her teeth in Dawn's neck, Dawn closes her eyes tight, and brings her stake around the vampire's back. She plunges it into the vampire, who then POOFS. Dawn coughs, having inhaled some of the vamp dust.

She smiles a little, and then remembers Giles. She turns back to where he is and sees him struggling to get free of the demon, who still has him pinned.

Dawn rushes to her supply bag and pulls out another dagger. She races to Giles' side.

ANGLE ON : WILLOW AND XANDER

Fighting the second demon still. The demon pushes Xander out of the way, causing Xander to fall to the ground. Willow sees this and struggles to raise her crossbow. She manages to shoot it, hitting the demon in the stomach.

The demon backs off and looks down at the arrow, then back to Willow. As he looks at Willow, he grabs the arrow and pulls it out, tossing it aside.

Willow grins in an "oh, crap" sort of way and tries to reload the crossbow, but she can't seem to do it.

The demon takes a step toward her, angrier than before. Just before it reaches her, Xander tackles the demon, taking it down. He struggles with the demon on the ground.

ANGLE ON : DAWN AND GILES

Dawn stabs the demon that's attacking Giles repeatedly in the back, but it seems to be making little difference. This is annoying her.

DAWN (CONT'D)

What the hell are you?

The demon finally looks back at Dawn. She sees it's face clearly for the first time. Her eyes widen.

DAWN (CONT'D)

Hura demon!  
 (to Giles)  
 This is a Hura demon!

GILES

(still being choked)  
 Kll ert!

Dawn nods, and raises the dagger again. She stabs the demon in the brain stem. This causes the demon to drop Giles, and stumble back, clutching it's neck.

Dawn looks to Giles with a smile.

DAWN

Huras' vital organs are all stored  
 in the head and neck.

GILES

(raspy voice)  
 Very good.

Dawn helps Giles up.

WILLOW

Xander!

Dawn and Giles turn and see that the second demon is on top of Xander, punching him in the face. Xander is unconscious.

Willow rushes to the demon and tries to pull it off, but can't. After a second, the demon looks at Willow and it's priorities change from Xander beating to amulet grabbing. It leaves Xander and goes after Willow.

Willow backs up, scared.

WILLOW (CONT'D)

Uh... Some help, please?

Dawn and Giles hurry to get to Willow's side and fight the demon. Dawn stops and tries to get a good look at the demon.

DAWN

Giles, I don't recognize this one!

GILES

Just stab it!

The demon manages to reach Willow and grab her before Dawn and Giles get there. When Giles finally gets to the demon, he punches the demon as hard as he can. The demon doesn't flinch.

GILES (CONT'D)

Dagger.

Dawn quickly gives Giles the dagger, which Giles stabs into the demon's back. The demon tosses Willow aside, and angrily turns to face Giles. It GROWLS LOUDLY in Giles' face. Giles isn't very comfortable with this turn of events.

GILES (CONT'D)

Oh dear.

The demon grabs hold of Giles' arms and picks him up. Giles drops the dagger, which Dawn hurries to pick up. She stabs the demon's arm and pulls the dagger back out, taking a step back.

The demon drops Giles and turns to her. It leans in toward her and ROARS. This thing is just getting pissed now.

Dawn doesn't flinch. She cocks her head slightly.

DAWN

Pretty eyes.

She quickly stabs the demon in it's left eye, digging the dagger in as far as it will go. The demon grabs it's face and stumbles back. Eventually, it falls over, dead. Dawn looks down at it.

DAWN (CONT'D)

Or- y'know- eye.

Her celebration is a short one. Willow yells behind her.

When Dawn turns, she sees Sanders and Rip attacking Willow.

Giles is already back on his feet by now. Both of them rush to help Willow... again.

ANGLE ON : WILLOW

Sanders struggles with her, trying to get to the amulet that is now in her pocket.

SANDERS

Give it to me!

Willow doesn't respond. She tried to push him away, but the added annoyance of Rip also grabbing at her makes it hard.

Giles pulls Rip away from them, causing Willow and Sanders to fall to the ground. Dawn pulls on Sanders to get him off of Willow. Finally, she manages to get him off of Willow.

Sanders gets to his feet and stumbles backwards. Dawn stops to see if Willow's okay, and helps her up.

WILLOW

This amulet is really starting to get annoying.

DAWN

Let's just kill this vampire so we  
can go home.

Dawn turns to face Sanders, but doesn't see him. He's gone.

Giles has managed to get a good grip on Rip.

GILES

Dawn, get me the chains.

Rip struggles, but Giles holds onto him as Dawn gets to her bag, and pulls out some chains.

Willow looks around for Sanders, wondering why he'd leave.

She reaches into her pocket, and immediately, her face fills with alarm.

EXT. ABANDONED HOUSE - BACKYARD - NIGHT

The night is calm and quiet. The only sound is that of CRICKETS CHIRPING. While there is much overgrowth, the place probably wouldn't be half bad looking if it had been kept up better.

Suddenly, Buffy and Kennedy come crashing through the back window, slamming to the ground with a roll. They struggle with each other, both trying to get the upper hand.

Buffy rolls on top of Kennedy and punches her in the face. Kennedy only allows this to happen once before she flips Buffy off of her.

Kennedy jumps to her feet and turns to face Buffy.

KENNEDY

You always thought you were better  
than the rest of us.

Buffy gets to her feet and faces Kennedy.

BUFFY

Not all. Just you.

Kennedy smiles.

KENNEDY

Because you know I deserve this more.

BUFFY

Or possibly because your a selfish  
brat who always got what she wanted  
but was never happy with what she  
had.

Kennedy gets pissed off. She rushes toward Buffy, and tries to punch her in the face. Buffy blocks her and grabs her arm.

BUFFY (CONT'D)

You do kinda deserve this part though.

Buffy twists Kennedy's arm, causing Kennedy to wince in pain. Kennedy knees Buffy and pulls herself free.

Kennedy takes a second to prepare herself, and then goes at Buffy again with a kick. Buffy blocks. Kennedy bends down and tries to sweep Buffy's feet out from under her, but Buffy avoids her.

Buffy smiles.

BUFFY (CONT'D)

For someone who thinks she's better suited for this job, you sure do suck at it.

Kennedy throws another punch. This time, she hits Buffy in the face. Buffy recovers and tries to hit back, but Kennedy blocks her. Kennedy grabs Buffy's arm, and spins her around. She releases Buffy, sending her crashing into the wall of the house.

KENNEDY

What was that? I couldn't quite hear you over the sound of your bones cracking.

Kennedy tries to punch the back of Buffy's head, but Buffy ducks out of the way. She kicks back, hitting Kennedy in the gut. As Kennedy doubles over, Buffy turns and grabs her. She picks Kennedy up, and slams her to the ground. She pins her there.

BUFFY

Where's the Scythe?

Kennedy doesn't respond.

BUFFY (CONT'D)

Okay, let me rephrase that.

Buffy grabs Kennedy's head and slams it to the ground again.

BUFFY (CONT'D)

Where's the Scythe?

KENNEDY

I'm not gonna tell you, so you might as well just stop asking.

Buffy holds Kennedy to the ground firmly.

BUFFY

I have all night. Now, we can keep going around in circles here, or you can tell me. It's really just a matter of how much you enjoy having your blood on the inside.

Kennedy doesn't respond. Buffy punches her. Kennedy's lip bleeds. Kennedy laughs.

BUFFY (CONT'D)

Think this is amusing?

KENNEDY

Little bit, yeah.

Buffy punches Kennedy again.

BUFFY

Still think it's funny?

KENNEDY

You have no idea.

Buffy's getting annoyed now.

BUFFY

I have no idea? You're the one messing with forces that are beyond you. These games that you're playing are dangerous.

KENNEDY

Said the girl who doesn't even know what the game is.

BUFFY

Then tell me. Explain it to me. Make me see the light and maybe I'll help you out.

KENNEDY

You're not a player in this round. Sorry.

Kennedy kicks Buffy off of her. Buffy hits the ground, but quickly recovers. Both girls get to their feet.

BUFFY

Do you really think you'd be worried about telling me if you were the good guy in all of this? Think about it.

KENNEDY

Maybe I'm just tired of you playing four-star General Buffy. You're not in command anymore. I don't have to report to you.

Kennedy softens up, and crosses her arms. She smiles.

KENNEDY (CONT'D)

You just can't stand being out of the loop, can you? Here I am, knowing so much more than you, and it's eating you alive.

BUFFY

Frankly, I don't think you're capable of running this show.

(beat)

I won't let you do it. Whatever it is, it ends here. You either tell me where the Scythe is, or you don't get out of here at all.

KENNEDY

What? You'll kill me?

BUFFY

If I have to.

KENNEDY

Isn't that against the rules? Slayer handbook frowns upon killing humans.

(beat)

Then again, I hear you never read the handbook.

BUFFY

I was kinda busy saving the world that week.

KENNEDY

You never deserved this. You never should have been chosen. Look at what you've created. A world full of girls who hate what they've become, all because you didn't want to deal with it alone. You call me selfish? I'm not the one who put Slayer blood on every vamp's bar tab.

Buffy's getting pissed off now.

BUFFY

You don't know what you're talking about.

KENNEDY

I think I do. I think I'm saying what everyone else has been thinking for the last year, but have been too scared to say. You go on preaching the tenets of Slayerhood, but you're just trying to sell everyone else the product you've never really bought into.

BUFFY

I'd shut my mouth if I were you.

KENNEDY

Don't like hearing the truth, do you?

BUFFY

I don't like hearing the ramblings of a selfish little girl who's trying to justify whatever plan she has.

(beat)

You think I don't know what you are, or why you're in this? It's the same thing that everyone else has been after. The same thing that I've had to fight time and time again.

(beat)

You're right. I never wanted the power. That's what makes me different from you, and from the Master, or Glory... It's the people who want the power that you have to worry about.

KENNEDY

And yet you felt the need to toss the burden onto as many other girls as you could. Girls who had no idea what was coming. You didn't care if you ruined their lives in the process.

BUFFY

I didn't have a choice.

KENNEDY

Is that what you tell yourself at night? Does it make it easier to sleep?

Buffy looks up at the sky, bored.

BUFFY

Y'know, I *am* feeling a bit tired. I think it's mostly just you're yammering though.

(MORE)

BUFFY (CONT'D)

I think I prefer the part where I was kicking your ass.

Buffy walks to Kennedy and punches her hard. Kennedy flies through the air and slams into the house before hitting the ground.

BUFFY (CONT'D)

Yup. Much better.

Buffy walks to Kennedy and picks her up. She pins her to the house.

BUFFY (CONT'D)

One more chance. Talk.

KENNEDY

I'm not gonna make it that easy for you. I'm not gonna let you forget those lives that you've destroyed.

Buffy punches her angrily.

KENNEDY (CONT'D)

Don't like it, do you? You don't like looking at what you've done.

Buffy hits Kennedy again.

KENNEDY (CONT'D)

Go on, Buffy. Hit me again. Shut me up. It won't change things. It won't bring back those girls. It won't stop them from dying, or selling their blood to survive.

BUFFY

This isn't about them. This is about you.

KENNEDY

Keep telling yourself that.

Buffy hits Kennedy again, harder than before.

KENNEDY (CONT'D)

Feel better? Has hitting me brought Vi back from the dead?

The name brings pain to Buffy's face as she hits Kennedy again.

BUFFY

Shut up.

Buffy grabs Kennedy's shirt and throws her as hard as she can. Kennedy is sent through the air, and crashes onto the rotting, warped stairway that leads to the house's backyard deck.

Buffy walks to her and leans over her. She punches Kennedy again.

BUFFY (CONT'D)  
I did what I had to.

Kennedy is groggy, and bleeding more now, but she still manages to speak.

KENNEDY  
You did what you wanted to.

Buffy hits Kennedy again.

BUFFY  
This was never about what I wanted.  
This was never about me.

KENNEDY  
All of this...  
(coughs up blood)  
All of this, and you're still alone,  
aren't you?

Buffy's eyes fill with tears. She punches Kennedy again, and then grabs her. She picks her up and throws her back down onto the stairs, hard.

BUFFY  
Where's the Scythe?

She punches Kennedy again.

BUFFY (CONT'D)  
Where is it?!

She waits for Kennedy to respond, but Kennedy doesn't.

ANGLE ON : KENNEDY

Limp. Eyes closed.

Dead.

A tear rolls down Buffy's cheek as she looks at Kennedy. She feels for a pulse. When she finds none, she takes a step back and starts to cry harder, though she tries to hold it back.

In her mind, she's trying to figure out what just happened. Right now, it's just jumbled in her mind.

She wipes another tear away, and continues to back off.  
Finally, she turns and walks away.

ANGLE ON : KENNEDY

Still dead, of course. Laying on the stairs in a very  
uncomfortable position, her face covered in blood.

FADE OUT:

END OF EPISODE